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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method, comprising:

receiving a specification for translating a network

policy from a first schema to a second, different schema;

translating the network policy into the second different

schema based on the specification; and

configuring a network system based on the translated

policy.

- 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the network policy is represented in a tag-based language.
 - 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the specification is received in a file from a policy server.
 - 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the file also contains the policy.
 - 5. An article comprising a machine-readable medium which stores machine-executable instructions for checking events performed by a device, the instructions causing a machine to:

receive a specification for translating a policy from a first schema to a second different schema;

translate the network policy into the second different schema based on the specification; and configure a network system based on the translated

policy.

- 6. The article of claim 5 wherein the network policy is represented in eXtensible Markup Language and the specification is represented in eXtensible Stylesheet Language.
- 7. The article of claim 5 wherein the specification is received in a file from a policy server.

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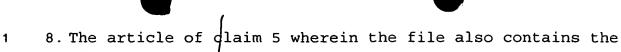
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1 9. An apparatus comprising:

policy.

- a memory which stores computer readable instructions; and a processor which executes the computer readable instructions to:
 - receive a specification for translating a policy
 from a first schema to a second, different schema;
 translate the network policy into the second
 different schema based on the specification; and
 configure a network system based on the translated
 policy.
 - 10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the network policy is represented in eXtensible Markup Language and the specification is represented in eXtensible Stylesheet Language.
 - 11. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the specification is received in a file from a policy server.
 - 12. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the file also contains the policy.
- 1 13. A method comprising:
- storing a network policy for configuring a network system according to a first schema;
- storing a specification for translating the network

 policy from the first schema to a second different schema;

 translating the network policy into the second different

 schema based on the specification; and
- sending the translated network policy to a client computer.

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14. The	method o	f claim 13, further comprising:
pri	ior to tra	slating the network policy:
	sending	the network policy to the client computer;
	sending	the specification for translating the
netwo	rk policy	to the client computer; and
	receivi	ng an indication that the client computer
cannot translate the network policy.		

- The method of claim 13 wherein the network policy is represented in eXtensible Markup Language and the specification is represented in extensible Stylesheet Language.
- The method of claim 13 wherein the network policy and the specification are stored in one file.
- 17. An article comprising a computer-readable medium which stores computer-executable instructions for checking events performed by a device, the instructions causing a machine to:

store a network policy for configuring a network system according to a first schema;

store a specification for translating the network policy from the first schema to a second different schema;

translate the network policy into the second different schema based on the specification; and

send the translated network policy to a client computer.

The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions further cause the machine to:

prior to translating the network policy:

send the network policy to the client computer; send the specification for translating the network policy to the client computer; and

receive an indication that the client computer cannot translate the network policy.

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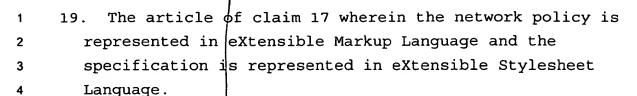
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- 1 20. The article of claim 17 wherein the network policy and 2 the specification are stored in one file.
- 1 21. An apparatus comprising:
 - a memory which stores computer readable instructions; a processor which executes the computer readable instructions to:

store a network policy for configuring a network system according to a first schema;

store a specification for translating the network policy from the first schema to a second different schema;

translate the network policy into the second different schema based on the specification; and send the translated network policy to a client computer.

22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein, prior to translating the network policy, the processor executes the instructions to:

send the network policy to the client computer; send the specification for translating the network policy to the client computer; and

receive an indication that the client computer cannot translate the network policy.

- 23. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the network policy is represented in eXtensible Markup Language and the specification is represented in eXtensible Stylesheet Language.
- 1 24. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the network policy and 2 the specification are stored in one file.

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A method of configuring a network comprising: 25. 1 transmitting a network policy according to a first schema 2 and a specification for translating the network policy from 3 the first schema to a second different schema from a server; 4 receiving the network policy and the specification on a 5 first client computer; 6

translating on the client computer the network policy from the first schema to the second different schema using the specification; and

configuring the network system on the first client computer using on the translated network policy.

The method ϕf claim 25 further comprising: 26. receiving the network policy on a second client computer; and

configuring the network system on the second client computer using on the network policy.

27. The method of claim 25 further comprising: receiving the network policy on a third client computer; transmitting to the server an indication that the third client computer cannot translate the network policy; translating on the server the network policy from the first schema to the second different schema using the specification; and

transmitting the translated network policy to the third client computer.

- The method of claim 27 wherein the network policy is represented in eXtensible Markup Language and the specification is represented in eXtensible Stylesheet Language.
- The method of claim 27 wherein the network policy and the 1 specification are contained in one file. 2
 - A method of creating a file for configuring a network system comprising:

